

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

**COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC,
CAMBRIDGE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY,
BOSTON EDISON COMPANY d/b/a NSTAR ELECTRIC,
and NSTAR GAS COMPANY**

D.T.E. 03-47

**KEYSPAN ENERGY DELIVERY NEW ENGLAND
PETITION FOR LIMITED PARTICIPANT STATUS**

KeySpan Energy Delivery New England (“KeySpan”),¹ pursuant to 220 C.M.R. § 1.03, hereby petitions the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (“Department”) for leave to take part as a limited participant in the above-captioned proceeding. In support of this request, KeySpan states the following:

1. The KeySpan companies are Massachusetts corporations located at 52 Second Avenue, Waltham, MA 02451.
2. The KeySpan companies are gas companies, as defined in G. L. c. 164, § 1, and are regulated by the Department pursuant to G. L. c. 164.
3. On May 15, 2003, the Department opened an investigation into Commonwealth Electric Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, Boston Edison Company d/b/a NStar Electric, and NStar Gas Company’s (collectively “NStar”) filing for approval of tariffs that would provide a reconciliation adjustment mechanism to allow recovery of costs of at least \$40 million associated with NStar’s obligations to provide its employees pension benefits and post-retirement benefits other than pensions. In its petition, NStar states that the proposed tariffs

¹ The Massachusetts local distribution companies that do business as KeySpan Energy Delivery New England are Boston Gas Company, Colonial Gas Company and Essex Gas Company.

are based on an accounting ruling made by the Department in Boston Edison Company, et al., D.T.E. 02-78 (2002).

4. In January 2003, KeySpan sought and received a similar ruling from the Department approving its proposal to defer and record as a regulatory asset or liability the difference between the level of pension expense included in rates and the amount of expense that must be booked in accordance with FAS 87, and to defer as a regulatory asset the amount of its current and future Additional Minimum Liability to reflect the ability to recover in rates its actual pension liability.

5. The Department's investigation of the proposed tariff recovery mechanism relates directly to KeySpan's recovery of pension expense.

6. KeySpan's interests are unique and cannot be represented adequately by any other party.

7. KeySpan's limited participant status in this proceeding will not jeopardize the Department's investigation in any respect.

8. Accordingly, KeySpan seeks to take part as a limited participant in this case, and where appropriate, to file comments, attend and participate in technical conferences, submit briefs, and to participate in this proceeding in any other manner deemed appropriate for limited participants by the Hearing Officer.

Therefore, KeySpan respectfully requests that the Department grant this Petition for Limited Participant Status.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 29, 2003